

VZCZCXRO5227
PP RUEHGI RUEHMA RUEHROV
DE RUEHNY #0462 1240648
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
P 040648Z MAY 07
FM AMEMBASSY OSLO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5616
INFO RUCNFUR/DARFUR COLLECTIVE PRIORITY

UNCLAS OSLO 000462

SIPDIS

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SENSITIVE

DEPARTMENT FOR AF/SPG

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [PREL](#) [PHUM](#) [EAID](#) [NO](#)
SUBJECT: NORWAY AND SUDAN-TDRA SUPPORT

REF: STATE 58734

(SBU) On May 3 we delivered reftel points to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Africa Section Advisors Kjell Hodnebo and Anna Strand, and Security Section Advisor Anne Kjersti Froholm. The Norwegians told us that since the DPA is likely to be renegotiated, working toward its implementation now by supporting TDRA structures would be premature and likely to create confusion. Norwegians were aware of USG support for the TDRA and for Menni Menawi. They agree with us on the need to support Menawi, but believe that a weak DPA is not the most effective instrument to do so. Norway stressed the need for the international community to pressure Khartoum to accept the heavy support package and to focus on stopping attacks in Darfur, particularly attacks on peace negotiation sites. Norwegians continue to review UN/AU command and control structures. MFA counterparts noted that Development Minister Eric Solheim will be in Sudan 22-24 May and that Salva Kiir has accepted an invitation to come to Oslo this summer.
WHITNEY